Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application PCT/EP98/01851 filed March 30, 1998

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-10, without prejudice.

Please enter the following new claims.

11. A process for making alkyl and/or alkenyl oligoglycosides comprising:

(a) providing an aqueous glucose sirup;

(b) providing a fatty alcohol;

(c) combining the glucose sirup with the fatty alcohol in order to form a glucose sirup/fatty alcohol suspension;

(d) providing an acidic cataylst;

(e) adding the acidic catalyst to the glucose sirup/fatty alcohol suspension; and

(f) acetalizing the glucose sirup/fatty alcohol suspension containing the acidic catalyst to form the alkyl and/or alkenyl oligoglycosides.

12. The process of claim 11 wherein the glucose sirup has a solids content of from 50 to 85% by weight, based on the weight of the glucose sirup.

13. The process of claim 11 wherein the glucose sirup has a monomeric glucose content of from 80 to 99.9% by weight, based on the weight of the glucose sirup.

14. The process of claim 11 wherein the glucose sirup of (a) is in supercooled melt form.

15. The process of claim 11 wherein the fatty alcohol of (b) is preheated to a temperature of from 25 to 40°C.

16. The process of claim 11 wherein the fatty alcohol corresponds to formula (I):

$$R^1OH \qquad (I)$$

wherein R^1 is an aliphatic, linear or branched hydrocarbon radical having from 6 to 22 carbon atoms, and up to 3 double bonds.

17. The process of claim 11 wherein the glucose sirup and fatty alcohol are combined in a molar ratio of from 1:1 to 1:10.

18. The process of claim 11 wherein the cataylst is added to the glucose sirup/fatty alcohol suspension in an amount of from 0.1 to 5% by weight, based on the weight of the suspension.

19. The process of claim 11 wherein the process is carried out discontinuously in a stirred tank reactor.

20. The process of claim 11 wherein the process is carried out in a cascade of from 3 to 6 stirred reactors.

21. The process of claim 11 wherein the glucose sirup/fatty alcohol suspension is dried prior to acetalization.

22. The process of claim 20 wherein the cascade of stirred

reactors has a temperature gradient of from 70 to 120°C.

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23. The process of claim 20 wherein the cascade of stirred reactors has a pressure gradient of from 20 to 50 mbar.

24. The process of claim 11 wherein acetalization is carried out under reduced pressure.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Abstract of the Disclosure